HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE CIVIL AIR PATROL FOR ITS UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO FAITHFULLY AND HONORABLY SERVE THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, the CIVIL AIR PATROL was founded on December 1, 1941, to allow private pilots and aviation enthusiasts to use their light aircraft and flying skills in civil defense efforts during the Second World War; and

WHEREAS, the CIVIL AIR PATROL was congressionally chartered in 1948 as the official auxiliary of the United States Air Force and fulfills three main missions: aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services, including air and ground search and rescue, disaster relief, counterdrug operations, and an increasing role in homeland security; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Wing of the CIVIL AIR PATROL was formed in 1948 under Colonel Benjamin F. Dillingham Jr., and consisted of some 200 members; and

WHEREAS, today the Hawaii Wing consists of approximately 600 members and the following squadrons: Wheeler CS, HI-009; Lyman CS, HI-043; Maui CS, HI-057; Kona CS, HI-060; The 66th Squadron, HI-066; Kauai CS, HI-073; West Oahu CS, HI-075; Kihei CS, HI-076; and Honolulu Flight, HI-078; and

WHEREAS, exemplifying true leadership in times of emergencies, the Hawaii Wing of the CIVIL AIR PATROL assists the United States Coast Guard and local first responders by conducting 25 to 30 search and rescue missions annually, and in the aftermath of Hurricane Iniki, the Hawaii Wing assessed the damage and relayed its findings directly to Governor John David Waihee III; and

WHEREAS, during the 2012 tsunami warning for Hawaii after a 7.7-magnitude earthquake off of British Columbia, the CIVIL AIR PATROL flew Cessna aircraft outfitted with loud speakers over beaches and residential areas in the Tsunami Inundation Zone to warn the public to evacuate the area; and

WHEREAS, as part of a collaborative effort in June of 2012, the CIVIL AIR PATROL was called up for duty to assist government agencies responding to the Hikimoe Ridge wildfire on Kauai by conducting flyovers to monitor the blaze; and

WHEREAS, for over 60 years, the Hawaii Wing of the CIVIL AIR PATROL has provided guidance, assistance, and training and continues to perform its mission of homeland security, disaster response, citizen development, and aerospace education; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Hawaii are proud to recognize these dedicated, courageous, and exceptional individuals who serve the community and contribute to the overall well-being of the State through the CIVIL AIR PATROL; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, that this body hereby commends the CIVIL AIR PATROL for its unwavering commitment to faithfully and honorably serve the people of the State of Hawaii, expresses its sincere gratitude to the Hawaii Wing for its efforts to improve public safety throughout the islands, and extends to the pilots and personnel of the CIVIL AIR PATROL its warmest aloha and best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.

OFFERED BY:

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